

## **Monthly Progress Report #8**

For Montana Project #8191

### **Research in Support of Container/Trailer on Flatcar in Intermodal Service on Montana's Class 1 Railroads RFP# 308128 RP**

*Reporting Period: January 1, 2008 – January 31, 2008*

Submitted by:  
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Submitted to:

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**Task 0: Project Management**

The Kick-off meeting for the project was held on June 13, 2007. This task has been completed.

**Task 1: Literature Review and Original Research (3.2.1.1)**

Continued work on the commodity maps for manufactured and mining products.

**Task 2: Identification of Users by Geographic Region (3.2.1.1.1)**

Due to the poor electronic survey response, users in Montana and Alberta were identified for a paper survey. As of January 31, 2008; 11 printed surveys have been returned. An electronic survey option was also identified in the cover letter. No electronic surveys were posted by this group of recipients.

A list of 134 Canadian companies was surveyed. Eight surveys were completed and returned.

**Task 3: A Terminal Profile (3.2.1.1.2)**

Since survey response was not conclusive terminals which would support 250 loads per week were reviewed to determine minimum specifications.

**Task 4: Develop Montana Shipper Cost Model ((3.2.1.1.3)**

Analysis of shipper costs was completed.

**Task 5: Document Current Intermodal Activities (3.2.1.1.4)**

Analysis of intermodal activities was completed.

**Task 6: Exploration of Railroad Incentives (3.2.1.1.5)**

Analysis of railroad incentives was completed.

**Task 7: Intermodal Service Recommendation (3.2.1.2)**

Analyzed potential service recommendation strategies.

Final report and Project Summary Report to be completed by March 1, 2008.

**Summary of Expenditures**

Table 1 summarizes the project costs through January 2008. January 2008 cost activities amounted to \$4,281.25 leaving \$8,319.44 for the remainder of the project. The Principal Investigator has booked hours over and above budgeted tasks. The remaining balance was drawn down yet the work has continued. The second/expanded effort for the survey task and the extended project time are both factors which have contributed to the exhaustion of funds.

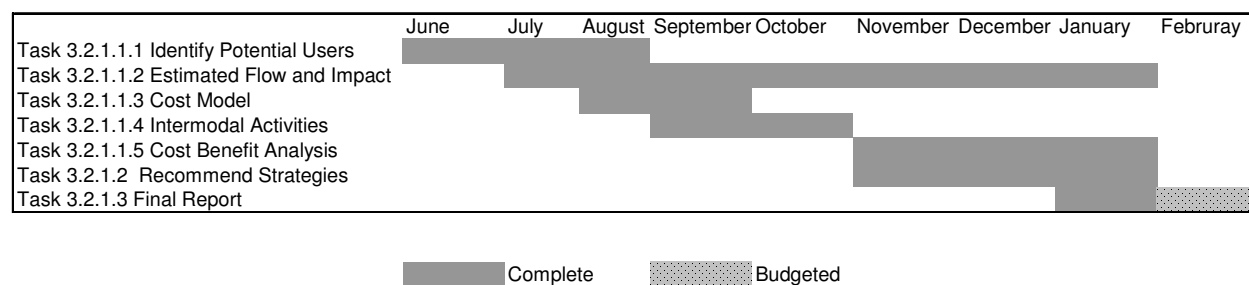
TABLE 1. Summary of Expenditures (June 1, 2007 – January 31, 2008)

Budget Category	Budgeted Funds	Spent This Period	Total Spent	Total Remaining
<b>Labor</b>	\$29,428.25	\$450.00	\$29,428.25	\$0.00
<b>Subcontract (Direct and Indirect Costs)</b>	\$19,387.50	\$1,443.00	\$12,333.00	\$7,054.50
<b>Travel</b>	\$4,800.00	0	\$3,535.06	\$1,264.94
<b>Operations/Communication*</b>	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Indirect</b>	\$29,428.25	\$2,388.25	\$29,428.25	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	\$84,044.00	\$4,281.25	\$75,724.56	\$8,319.44
<b>PI booked 60 hours yet only had money remaining for 3. Balances in Labor and Indirect costs were drawn down to 0</b>				

### Project Schedule Summary

A summary of the project status is shown in Figure 1. The project has been underway for seven months. An extension was granted to increase the survey effort.

FIGURE 1: Project Schedule with Completed Work



### Hours Spent in December by Task Break Down

January Hours By Task	PI Ogard Hours	WTI Stephens Hours	WTI Cole Hours
Task 3.2.1 Kick Off Meeting			
Task 3.2.1.1 Literature Review/Research			
Task 3.2.1.1.1 Identify Potential Users			
Task 3.2.1.1.2 Terminal Profile		6	8
Task 3.2.1.1.3 Cost Model			
Task 3.2.1.1.4 Intermodal Activities			
Task 3.2.1.1.5 Cost Benefit Analysis	30		
Task 3.2.1.2 Strategies & Final Report	30	2	2
January	60	4	6